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**The Hongkong Telegraph.**  
TODAY'S WEATHER: Moderate Northeast winds, cloudy with occasional light rain.  
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VOL. III NO. 285 THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 1948. Price 20 Cents

## Chilly Reception For Madame Chiang

Washington, Dec. 1.—A frosty morning, a chilly press and a cool officialdom greeted Madame Chiang Kai-shek when she arrived in Washington today to seek American aid for her husband's retreating armies in China.

No appointments were fixed for her. President Truman's calling list for the day omitted her name. State Department officials said they knew of no immediate plans for her to meet either the Secretary of State, Mr. George Marshall, who is in hospital, or the Under-Secretary of State, Mr. Robert Lovett.

Madame Chiang maintained the silence that she imposed on herself on her arrival at San Francisco yesterday. Her answer to all reporters' queries was "No comment."

It appeared that she meant to make no public pronouncements until she had talked with high American officials. The reception she is due to get from those officials, however, is universally expected to be unresponsive.—Reuter.

## ANOTHER FATAL AIR CRASH

Paris, Dec. 1.—Two people were killed and six injured when a Halifax transport plane belonging to a French company crashed after taking off in thick fog from Bron Aerodrome, near Lyons, today.

A woman from Casablanca and one of her children were killed. The pilot, the radio operator and the mechanic were taken to hospital.—Reuter.

## EDITORIAL

### Actions Speak Loudest

HOW much is to be hoped from the "back door" negotiations in Paris on the Berlin dispute? Certainly the plan upon which Dr. Baramulla is working has the merit of common sense. The main obstacle to a settlement of the Moscow negotiations was, at any rate on the surface, the inability of the four Military Governors to agree upon practical measures for carrying out the "directive" agreed on August 30. And in Paris the main obstacle has seemed to be that the Western Powers refuse to engage in new currency negotiations while the blockade continues, while the Soviets have refused to lift the blockade until the new currency talks have ended in agreement. Now, Dr. Baramulla suggests, the Security Council itself, with the aid of information supplied by the experts of the four Powers, will produce a plan for a currency change-over. It will ask that the blockade shall be lifted while currency arrangements are being put into operation. The target date for completing the whole operation is December 20. The plan is ingeniously devised to break two deadlocks at once. What the four Military Governors failed to do the Council itself will do. And in so doing, it gets rid of all need for further negotiation about currency, and, therefore, all dispute whether they shall come before or after the lifting of the blockade. Dr. Baramulla's efforts should, on the face of things, have a good chance of success given two conditions. One is that the Soviet Government genuinely desires a settlement; the

## Billions In Aid For China

Washington, Dec. 1.—The United States has supplied at least \$3,500,000,000 in aid to China since the start of World War II, according to an estimate in an article on American-Chinese relations in the current issue of the American Foreign Service Journal, the house organ of American diplomats.

Some of the help has been in cash, some in merchandise. The amount includes \$400,000,000 provided by Congress last April. Of that amount \$100,000,000 was for military assistance.

The assistance provided prior to the end of the war with Japan was calculated at \$1,400,000,000.

The post-war aid was estimated at \$2,025,000,000.

The post-war figure included \$400,000,000 Congressional appropriation last April, surplus military supplies estimated at \$181,900,000 and the 72 per cent share that the United States paid on goods supplied by the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration.

The magazine's estimate did not include the gift of 98 naval vessels and "other more intangible items."—Reuter.

## Nationalists March To Meet Communist Army

### REDS 40 MILES FROM NANKING

Shanghai, Dec. 2.—The Nationalist forces today are moving northward from the north bank of the Yangtze to meet the newest Red thrust southward represented by strong Communist units, which were reported to be somewhere near Changpaling, only 40 miles north of Nanking.

Pro-Government reports admitted that small bands of Communists were active in that area but claimed that strong government forces were striking northward from the Yangtze to contact the Red at Kolsien and Changpaling.

Semi-official reports said that the most critical position for the Nationalists appeared to be still east and north of Pengpu, where the Communists used once-eyed Liu to attack along the Hwei River front. The Nationalists were described as

# BRITONS THREATENED BY TIENTSIN TROOPS: UGLY DEMONSTRATION

## Night Of Tension Marks Eve Of Evacuation

Tientsin, Dec. 2.—Excitement and tension gripped Tientsin last night as evacuees prepared to board the Jardine steamer, Wingsang, sailing for Hongkong this morning. Unruly Nationalist soldiers provoked fear and dismay on the eve of the first major British evacuation by adopting aggressive blackmail tactics against British enterprises.

They threatened to impose physical violence upon the managers and other responsible persons in several British and other foreign concerns. As trouble spread in the heart of the city, the bankruptcy of control over these elements was apparent.

Soldiers made demands for sums of money leaving little room for bargaining. They advanced on foreign-owned concerns in sizable mobs of uniformed men. Police constables did not intervene. All yesterday, foreign concerns were systematically invaded by these mobs and by nightfall, with excitement at its highest, the demands for money had not relaxed.

## STRONG AIR BLOWS

Chinese Air Force bombers and fighters were said in pro-Government reports to be getting in strong blows against Liu Po-cheng's men. Contrary to his ordinary battle tactics, Liu is keeping his units together in compact array. His usual tactics call for widely scattered positions. Liu's successes from the start of the civil war have been due to his hit and run tactics and high mobility.

Farther north a point about 10 miles south of Suhsien, other Communist units were said to be on the move southward to join with Liu Po-cheng's men in the assault on Pengpu.

North of Suhsien, the Nationalists under General Chiu Ching-chien were said in semi-official reports to be fighting southward the Red-held city but admitted that no great progress is being made.

The encircled Army group under General Huang Wei southeast of Suhsien, which is encircled by other corps under Liu Po-cheng's command, was said to be battling desperately in an effort to break out of the trap. Reports admitted, however, that General Huang has not made much progress either. Huang's men were encircled when they struck out from Hankow far to the southwest in an attempt to reinforce the Nationalists at Hsuechow, Suhsien and Pengpu.

## NOT EVACUATING

Nanking, Dec. 1.—The Chinese Government tonight officially denied contemplating the removal of the capital from Nanking but at the same time it declared that it was considering assistance to those civil servants who wish to send their dependants to rural homes.

Stating that rumours had been current that the Government may remove the capital from Nanking, Dr. Hollington Tong, the Government Information Minister, said: "It is not our intention to move."

Dr. Tong stated, however, "With a view to conserving food and other essential supplies in the capital and also removing a possible source of worry among the personnel, the Government is considering assistance to those who wish to send their dependants to rural homes."

## APPEAL TO EMPLOYEES

Dr. Tong continued: "At this juncture I wish to stress not only has the Government not considered the question of removal, but no Central Government organs are making preparations to move."

"The Government needs now, as never before, every Government employee to remain at his post of duty and work with increased efficiency as a contribution to the national effort."

"The Government is not contemplating any large-scale reduction of its personnel. At present, Government troops at the front have chosen an advantageous area into which they have evicted the rebel forces for a major battle of annihilation."

"At the moment, our heroic officers and men are writing a new page of glory in China's history. Both Chinese and foreign correspondents who have visited the front recently were all impressed by their exceedingly high morale."—Reuter.

## A SLIP OF THE TONGUE

Paris, Dec. 1.—Mr. Peter Fraser, New Zealand's Prime Minister, tonight amazed the United Nations Minor Political Committee by demanding that Japan be admitted to membership of the UN.

He built up a strong case for her admission until delegates realised that it was a slip of the tongue.

He meant Ceylon.

"It would be a disgraceful prostitution of the power of the Security Council if Japan were made the plaything in the dissension and strife within that body," Mr. Fraser declared.

He reached the end of his speech before he corrected himself.

Looking round a laughing Assembly he added ruefully: "I hope it will be many years before Japan comes into the United Nations."

All the 58 members of the United Nations Minor Political Committee were completely in favour of Ceylon's admission, but there were still two camps adamant in their differences on the phraseology of the required resolution.

Tonight, the Committee appointed three members to frame the resolution—Colonel W.R. Hodgson, Australia; Dr. J. K. Suchy, Poland; and Brigadier General Carlos Romulo, of the Philippines.—Reuter.

## ROVER SCOUT'S GALLANTRY

Grimby, Dec. 1.—Rover Scout Leader Lawrence Kelley, aged 31, of the 6th Grimby Group, Humberside, has been awarded the Silver Cross for gallantry and presence of mind in rescuing from drowning a child trapped in a perambulator in the River Humber last August.

Although a non-swimmer, Kelley jumped into the river and righted the perambulator which was floating upside down.

When the perambulator sank Kelley dived down and unstrapped the child and brought it to the surface. The child recovered.—Reuter.

## Suicide Suspected

Hollywood, Dec. 1.—Raymond McCarey, 44, film director and brother of the noted director-producer, Leo McCarey, has been found dead in his apartment. Police suspect suicide.—United Press.

## Prize-Winning Legs



Blonde, blue-eyed, shapely Patricia "Legs" Hall (above), who recently won a "most beautiful legs" in the world contest, has been signed by Universal-International studio. In Hollywood, which says it's looking for "new faces," she'll play the role of a bathing beauty in her first picture.—AP Picture.

## Bribery Probe: Stanley Gives Evidence

London, Dec. 1.—Sidney Stanley, the key figure in the Government enquiry into allegations of corruption in public life, claimed today that he had offered Members of Parliament "all the money they wanted" for an organisation to fight Communism.

Stanley, giving evidence for the first time, declared his offer was made at a dinner party. Mr. Morgan Phillips, secretary of the Labour Party, was there.

Later, an organisation called "Freedom and Democracy" came into being, he said.

Stanley said that Mr. Tom O'Brien, Member of Parliament, had been put forward as its organiser by the Trades Union Congress, which did not want to appear in the picture.

There was a stir in court today when Stanley—small and chubby with heavily-lidded eyes—walked slowly to the witness stand and placed a white handkerchief on his head to take the oath in Jewish fashion.

The man said to have used five different names confessed: he did not know under what name he had been born. His father's name had been Koschovsky.

He told the court he had been known as "Sidney Stanley" for over 25 years. He denied he had had any other names during that period except "Reichman."

## Communists Start A Fist Fight In Berlin

Berlin, Dec. 1.—Communist hecklers precipitated a violent fist fight in Western Berlin on Wednesday night when they tried to break up a political rally.

It was the first outbreak since a Communist-called meeting in the Soviet sector on Tuesday declared the regular city government out of office and elected a new Red regime by a show of hands.

An audience of several hundred in Neukolln was being urged on Wednesday by Social Democrat speakers to turn out a big vote against Communism in next Sunday's elections when the Communist hecklers interrupted.

**THROWN OUT**

A dozen men, began throwing punches. German police, with the enthusiastic aid of the Social Democrats, threw the rowdies out of the hall. Outside the hecklers sang the "Internationale." There were no arrests.

Scores of similar rallies are scheduled for the remainder of this week in all parts of Western Berlin, and the West German police have been alerted to keep order.

Police said there was no way of telling whether the hecklers came from the Soviet sector of Berlin since none was arrested. Berliners are still free to circulate from one sector to another.

The Western Military Government announced on Wednesday night that no members of the police can engage in any political activity beyond their party membership.

**MAYOR LOCKED OUT**

Meanwhile, the Communists began entrenching themselves in the city hall in Eastern Berlin. They locked the regular mayor out of his office in the Soviet sector, piled his furniture in the corridor, tore his name off the door and prepared to install the Communist mayor.

The division of Berlin along East-West lines was thus solidified following the action of the Communists in setting up a new city administration under Friedrich Ebert.

The Western Allied Military Governors continued to label the "election" an illegal ploy and a mockery of democratic processes.—Associated Press.

## For Portuguese Navy

Gosport, Dec. 1.—The Royal Navy handed over the submarine Spur to the Portuguese Navy at Gosport today. Two other submarines of the "G" class (715 tons), the Saga and the Spearhead, were transferred to Portugal, a few days later.

Its circulation, said Stanley, went up to 10,000. Most of the copies went to Europe.

Stanley agreed that he had given Mr. Gibson cigars and had given Mr. Belcher a gold cigarette case worth £200 or £270, "after knowing him for almost two years and against his wishes."

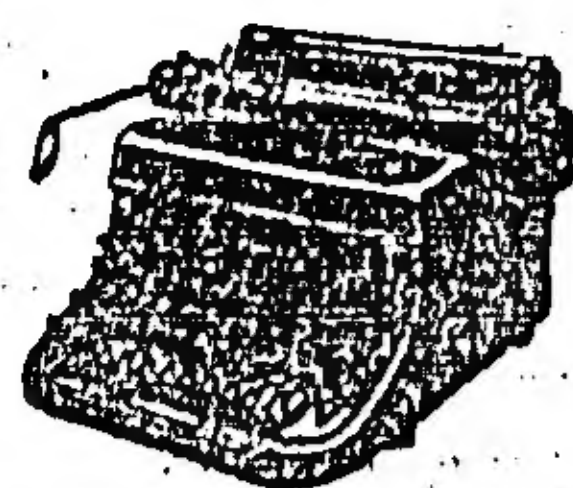
He said he paid the Belcher family's hotel bill at Margate during the Labour Party Conference there, because he had originally asked them to stay at his house, but found he had not enough accommodation.

Stanley said he had gone to boxing matches and greyhound races with Mr. Belcher but had never loaned money to him; for betting, Stanley denied lending money to Mr. Gibson or to Mr. Charles Key, Minister of Works or any other Government official. He had sometimes paid Belcher 15 shillings' admissions to the greyhound racing and had given him meals.

Stanley declared emphatically that Mr. Belcher had never done anything for anybody in his official capacity. He had always referred the matter to the proper channels at the Board of Trade. He added that he had taken people wanting advice about business matters to see Mr. Belcher, and was a frequent visitor himself at the Board of Trade. "It was an advantage to have easy access to Mr. Belcher and expedite matters that might otherwise be forgotten in the files."—Reuter.



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## WOMANSENSE

Learn How to Really Relax



Know how to really relax, advises Movie Star Jacqueline White, and you'll never be troubled with nervous tension.

By HELEN FOLLETT

NOW is the time when there is a possibility of a mid-season slump. Not enough fresh air and sunlight. If you are as busy as a whole hive full of bees you had better learn how to relax. Maybe you have forgotten how, with all your rushing about, with time at your heels. Women were never so active, never in such dire need of

catching a few restful moments now and then. Unless you have them, don't expect that you can avoid the beauty graces that the birthdays bring—wrinkles, grey hair, changes in the subtle silhouette.

Learn to conserve energy; don't waste your strength needlessly. Pretend the movies understand all about that; they take wonderful care of themselves. If they didn't they couldn't hold down their trying jobs.

Avoid nervous tension. You can do that by organizing your life, doing how to do your work restfully. Tension means that muscles are tight, especially the muscles of the face. Under such conditions the feminine countenance is bound to look hard and brittle.

Don't think too much about the tasks that are before you. Thinking about them, dreading them, is almost as exhausting as doing them. Whenever possible, do a bit of exercise. Lie on your back. Let every muscle go limp. Close your eyes, take long, deep breaths. Relax before getting into bed. A good way to do that is to attend to your good looks chores. Brush your hair; it will love to be caressed. Give yourself a three minute scalp massage; unless the scalp is in good condition you can't expect your hair to sprout life and lustre. Cream your complexion, rubbing upward and outward with the finger tips. Do circles around your eyes. Use the cream on your finger nails, rubbing it into the surrounding cuticle. Give your elbows a brisk lubrication.

## THE QUILTED HOME COAT



By VERA WINSTON

PRACTICAL AND PRETTY tells the story of indoors winter wear. Out are the fluffy robes and, instead, the emphasis is on robes of the type depicted here today. But luxury has not been sacrificed for simplicity, as is shown in this robe of beautiful pale blue satin. The blue is a background for the wine red calico print that makes it young and gay. It has deep patch pockets, and there is wine red satin piping at all edges. This model has a flared back and is made dress length. It is quilted and padded for extra warmth.

## Beauty Hints

Combs should have fairly blunt teeth. Steel or wire combs should NOT be used. Brushes must have firm bristles, never metal "bristles". Softer bristle brushes are excellent for "polishing" the hair.

For small plumb hands, choose small, sparkling stones. An overly elaborate ring would not be flattering. Be sure to wear your nails in an elongated oval, never pointed.

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## Around The Town

—with Mercia Hillaly

IT is quite an event to have Prince Axel amongst us, as we so seldom have royal visitors to the Colony. He is a second cousin of the present King of Denmark, is tall, athletic-looking and has a charming manner. He speaks excellent English and has a keen sense of humour.

Today the Prince is lunching with Mr. T. V. Soong in Canton but will be back for tea. He came out as chairman of the East Asiatic Company.

The Prince was married to Princess Margaret of Sweden in 1910 and has two sons, Prince George 20, and Prince Fleming, 20. One is attached to the Embassy in London, and the other is in the Navy.

There was talk at one time of Prince George being a possible suitor for Princess Margaret, but Prince Axel says that our papers seem to know more about it than he does.

His Royal Highness is staying at the Repulse Bay Hotel.

Called on Sir Victor Sassoon yesterday for a chat and found a good conversationalist, friendly, amiable and with a lively sense of fun. He is still every inch a "bon vivant" and, despite his greying hair, has a great deal of the energy and sparkle of youth, especially in his eyes.

He can give an opinion on anything, and often makes statements to the press which he hopes aren't taken too seriously.

He has been offered an attractive sum for his biography by some leading publishers. He has not a great many interesting people in his back over his life, he regrets nothing and would live it all over again.

Talking about Shanghai, Sir Victor said there were about 4,000 possible evacuees in case of trouble, but that a few hundred people, comprising consular officials and leading businessmen, would have to stay behind.

He is leaving on Saturday for Honolulu, and then he goes on to Buenos Aires, where he has interests in a penicillin factory. Sir Victor travels without a secretary and prefers to do most of his own work when on a voyage.

Prof. Cheng How-lou, who studied biophysics at University College, London, for about two years on a British Council scholarship, is on his way to Peking after a week here, to continue teaching at the University, and to carry on research work in plant physiology. He has interested himself in the sensitivity and action currents in plants, and says the mimosa is one of the most sensitive.

Prof. Lou also talked of several carnivorous plants he has found in the Colony such as the bladderwort, a good mosquito trap—which is found in Ricefields, the sundew, a delicate red flower, and the nyctaginia, a green tubelike plant, known to Chinese as the "pig's cage plant."

Women's skirts are on the upward trend again, says Mrs. Ruth Horner, who gave ladies the latest fashion news from Paris at the Women's International Club yesterday evening.

Fashionable women are wearing hem 14 inches from the ground. Styles vary, however, and women wear what suits them best, be it Empire or nipped waist or flounces.

This news was greeted with satisfaction by the ladies present, who really came to watch a demonstration of Mrs. Horner's makeup art.

A "volunteer" was transformed with deftly applied makeup, and some of Mrs. Horner's hints are worth passing on.

Always apply cream in an upward direction.

With thin lips do not use too deep a shade of lipstick.

Keep bushy eyebrows tidy, rather than whittle them down too much.

Mrs. Horner will repeat her talk at the Helena May Institute and for the Ladies' Section of the YMCA. She will also broadcast.

## Peaked, Pert and Pretty



By ALICE ALDEN

SLEEK LITTLE HATS that rise to pretty peaked heights appear in many of the collections. Young and pertly pretty is this peaked Pincocchio bonnet by Harryson.

## BOYS AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

Where Could Willy Go In Winter?

—All the Friends Invited Him to Visit—

By MAX TRELL

KNARF, the shadow-boy with the turned-about name, was talking to his friend Willy Toad. Usually Willy sat on top of the mushroom (or perhaps it was a toadstool). But the weather had turned cold. The mushroom had disappeared. The coldest thing Willy could find to sit on was a patch of brown moss at the bottom of a ditch. However, he seemed quite cheerful.

"The ditch isn't the most elegant place to live," he said to Knarf. "But I don't really mind. I expect to go away for the winter. I'll only be here for a few days."

"Are you really going away?" Knarf asked in surprise.

"Certainly," said Willy. "You don't suppose I'm going to stay in this cold ditch all winter, do you?"

"No," said Knarf. "I didn't think you would. But where are you going?"

## Going South

"South," said Willy, "where it's warm. There's nothing like a trip south for the winter. Quite a few of my friends are going south. They've invited me to stay with them. The only trouble is," he added, "I don't know which of them to go with."

Knarf wanted to know more about this, so Willy explained.

"Well, the Robins invited me to stay under a palm tree where they have their winter nest."

"Oh!" said Knarf. "That sounds wonderful. Are you going to do it?"

"I can't make up my mind," said Willy. "The Swallows invited me too. They have a fine place for me under a banana tree."

"A banana tree!" Knarf gasped. "That's most wonderful! Did you tell them you'd do it?"

Willy shook his head. "No," he said. "It's because of the Larks. They invited me to stay under a coconut tree."

Knarf could hardly talk for excitement. "I hope you're going with them!" he finally managed to say.

"I don't know," said Willy. "You see, the Thrushes also asked me. They want me to stay under a fig tree. And the Orioles asked me. They invited me to stay under a date tree. So now I don't know what to do."

Knarf was just about to suggest that Willy could spend the winter



Knarf found Willy sitting in a ditch.

staying a little while with all his friends, enjoying himself under those wonderful trees, when suddenly a little white stone in the bottom of the ditch, not far from where Willy was standing, started moving a bit. Knarf and Willy both turned around. The next moment, Blinky Mole put out his head.

"Hello, Knarf! Hello, Willy!" Blinky Mole said.

## Returned The Greeting

As soon as Knarf and Willy returned the greeting, Blinky Mole said, "I just heard you talking about those wonderful trees you were thinking of staying under for the winter, Willy. Of course, I can't give you an invitation that's nearly as good as any of those. But my house is under the roots of that old apple tree that you see growing at the edge of the ditch, and if you'd like to spend the winter with me, you're aren't any palms, or bananas, or coconuts, or figs or dates but there's no winter winds, and there's plenty of room for you to stretch out and snooze until the spring comes here again."

Knarf looked at Willy. It didn't take Willy a minute to make up his mind. He hopped right into the opening behind the stone. "Nothing like being under an old apple tree," he said, as he disappeared inside. Blinky Mole's underground house.

## Rupert and Margot—6



Horace doesn't explain what he means by calling part of the wood dangerous, but only turns and disappears into the bush again. "We must be going the right way, anyway," says Reggie, "because you picked up her handkerchief near here." So the three pals push along a footpath until the wood becomes thicker. They call Margot's name, but there is no reply. Then Rupert pauses. "There's a signboard here," he says. "Let's look at it. I do hope this path isn't private. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED."

## RED RYDER



## A Feast In Store

## BY FRED HARMAN





# WORLD NEWS IN PICTURES



**FLYING CAMEL**—Susanne Moritz goes for a ride on this camel, mascot of the 86th Fighter Wing in Berlin. Lt Donald Butterfield keeps a close eye on the youngster, as do the other happy children. Arriving with the camel on a plane were 7,000 pounds of food and candy for the Christmas season.



**MARSHALL PLAN IN ACTION**—A lighter, appropriately named "Hope," takes on the first shipment of steel to arrive in England under the Marshall Plan. The steel will be made into machinery as part of England's effort to rebuild domestic peace-time industry.



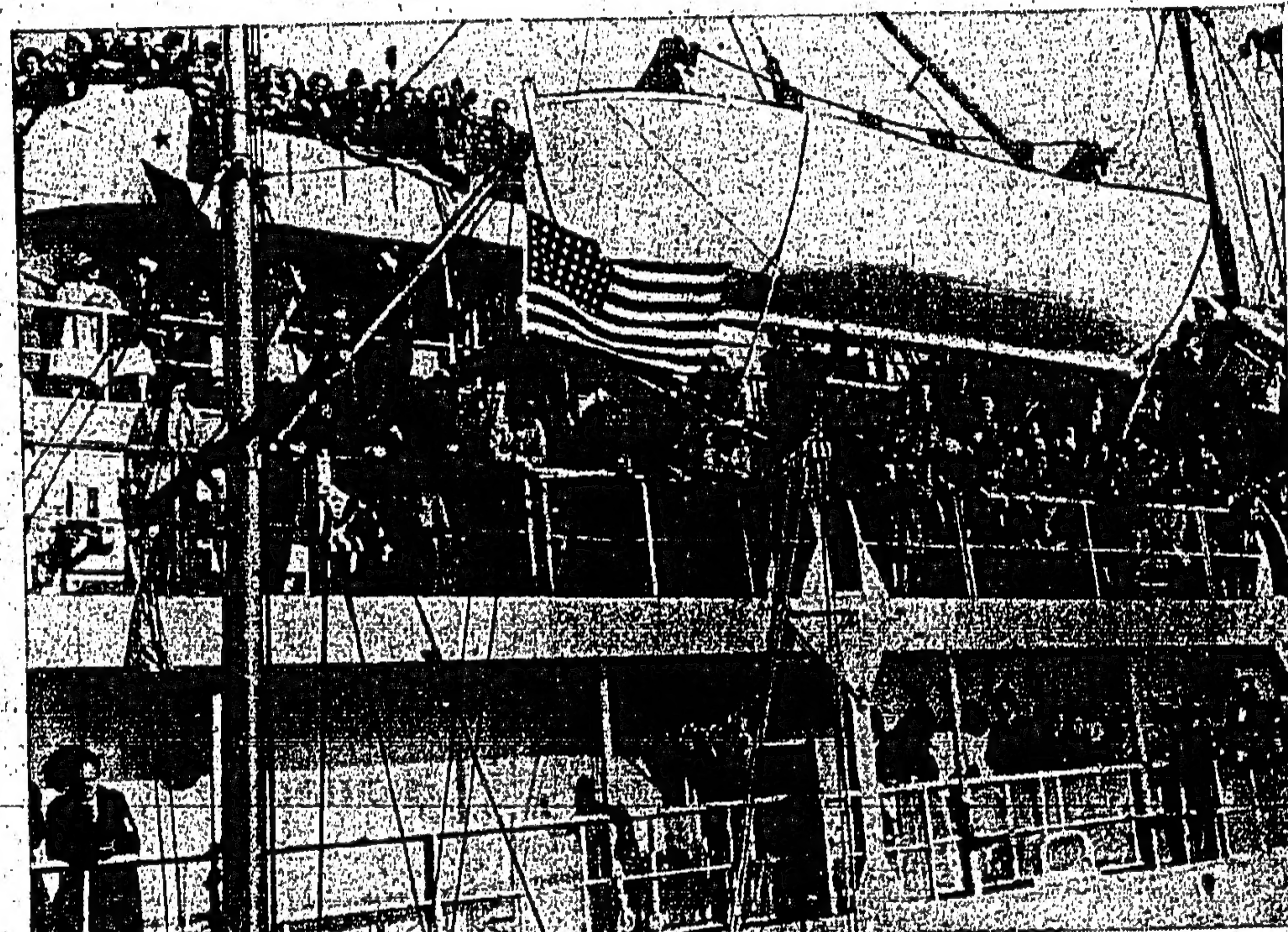
**UNUSUAL ADOPTION**—An addition to the family of Mr and Mrs Leroy Jenkins was eagerly welcomed when one-year-old Patricia, above, was taken into their Dallas, Texas, home. Patsy, like her two new foster parents, is blind. Douglas, three-year-old son of the blind couple, is the only one of the happy foursome with normal sight.



**WHAT AN ACT**—Someone gave Jimmy Durante this pumpkin lantern with the inflated "schnozzle," and the comedian seems somewhat taken aback. It happened at a Halloween party in Hollywood.



**TURN TO AND SWAB DOWN**—Two-year-old Lawrence M. Moffett, returning to New York in the liner Vulcania, goes about the meticulous task of cleaning up the deck. He went to Egypt to visit his grandparents.



**JOURNEY'S END**—Displaced persons from Europe get their first look at the U.S. from the decks of the U.S. Army transport General Black. Numbering 813, they are the first of 205,000 to arrive under the Displaced Persons Act. Each smile reveals the culmination of a dream come true.

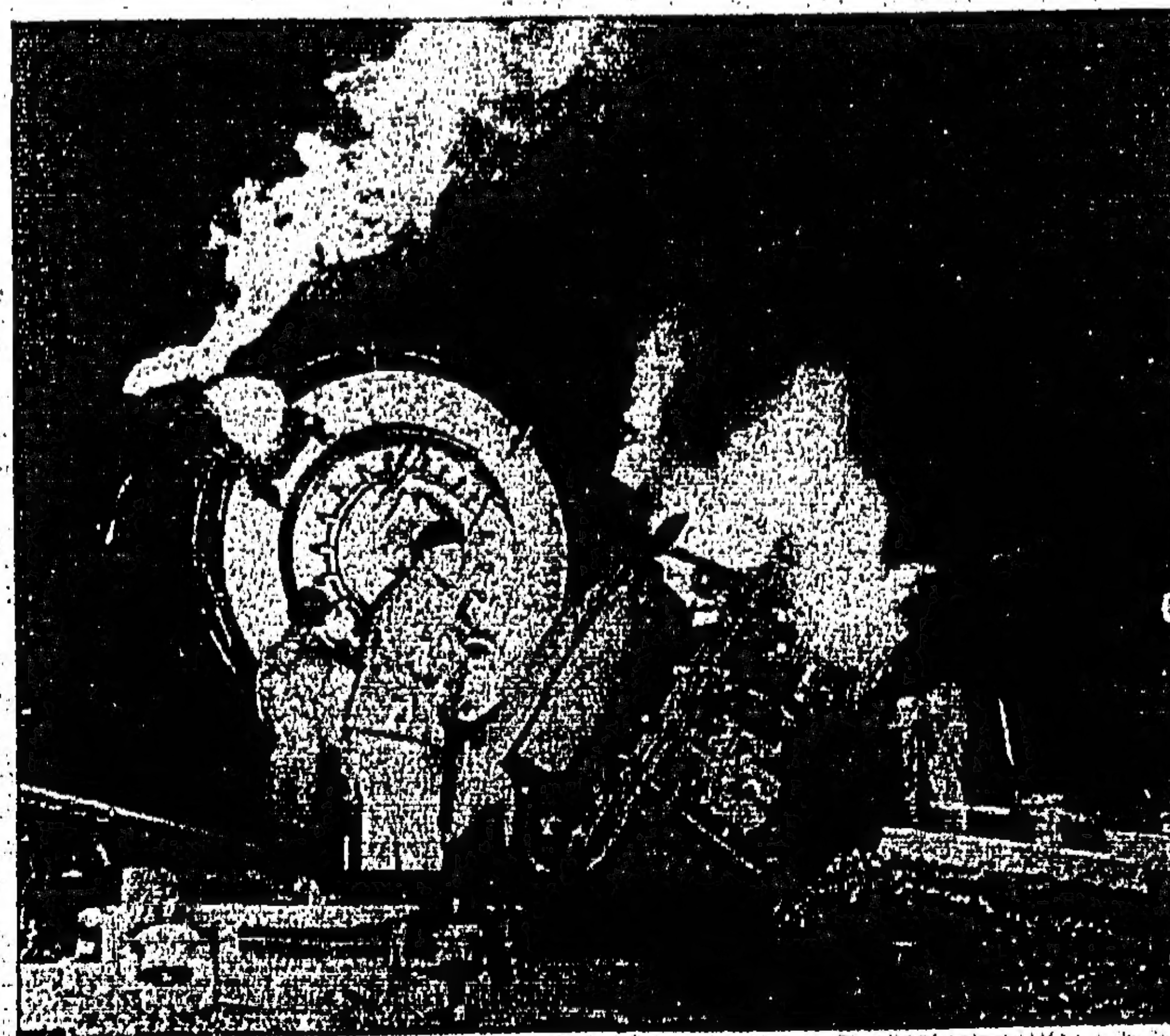
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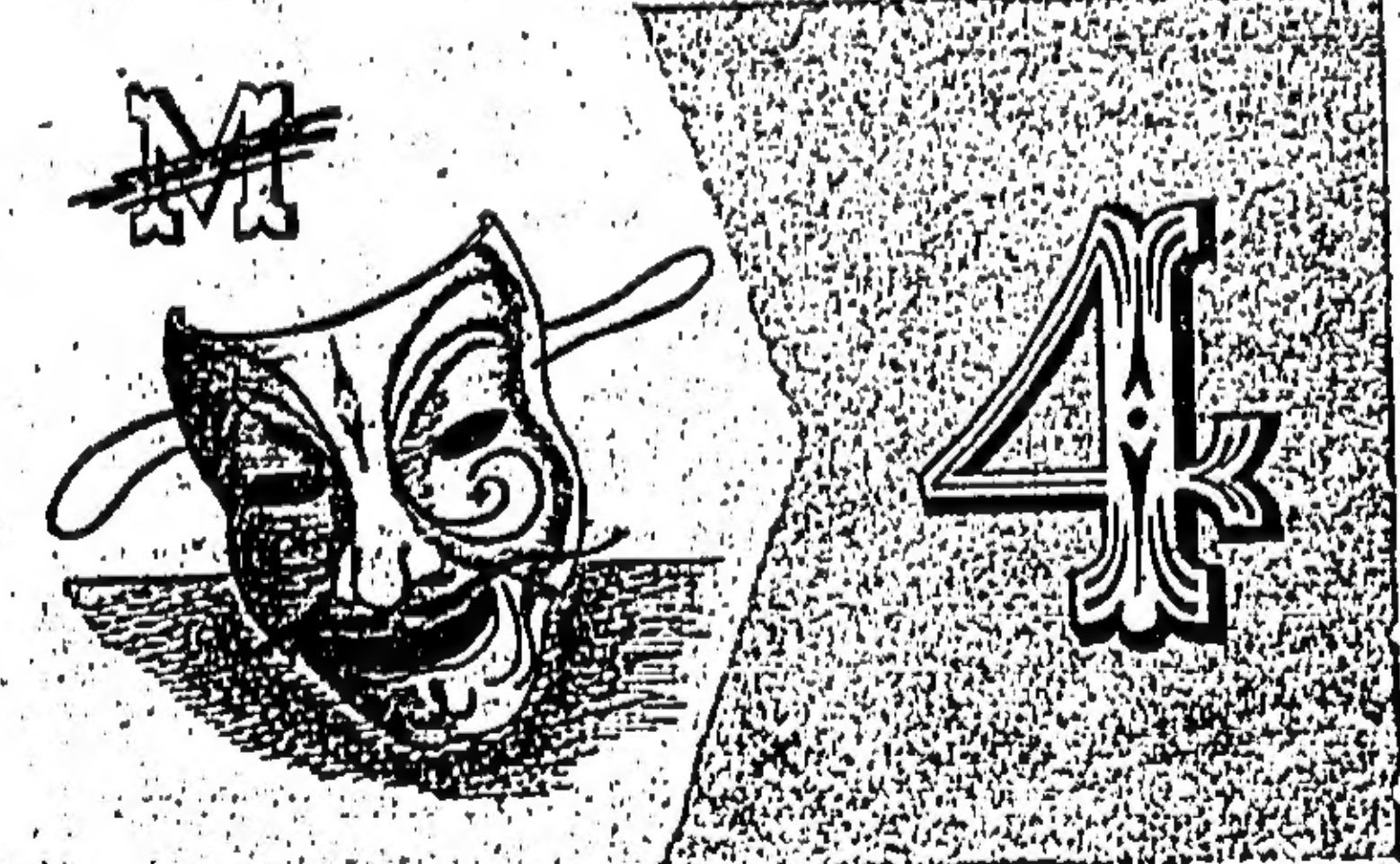
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Luisa Kainer

"And if you persist in being late for A.R.P. lectures we have means of helping you to be early."

**SEFTON DELMER'S  
NEWSMAP**

SEUL, Korea.  
WHENEVER I am in an American-occupied country I make a point of getting myself invited to the PX—the Naaft-type store where American soldiers can buy anything from a bar of chocolate to a cabin-trunk or a motor car. I go to look and feast on long-forgotten plenty at low prices.

But there was not plenty to greet me when I visited the PX here in Seoul. Only the ground floor of the three-storey building was still being kept open. And even here the shelves were as empty as in Europe's hungriest capitals.

In the mess where I live—as in all other American messes here—whisky and cigarettes are carefully rationed. Gin is out altogether. Beer is an exquisite rarity.

You ask, is Uncle Sam going bankrupt? No, he is not going bankrupt. He is just getting out. Or, anyhow he thinks he is.

The truth is that the U.S. Chiefs of Staff have written off Korea, the only territory in the Pacific area where the U.S. and Russia have a common frontier.

**SIGNIFICANT**

IT is a significant decision for it lights up American policy in the whole of this Eastern theatre of the conflict between the Soviet and the Western world.

And it is particularly important at the present moment, when the military and economic collapse of Chiang Kai-shek China faces the American policy-makers with decisions they have been hoping for the last three years to put off.

On Korea, as far as the military are concerned, the decision has been comparatively simple. The experts have laid it down that in the event of an armed showdown with the Soviets, the U.S. forces in Korea would be out on a limb.

To make Korea defensible would require a large expenditure of money, material, and effort in building airfields and communications. The strategic importance of Korea is not sufficient to warrant this.

So the U.S. chiefs have made up their minds to get out of Korea and fall back on America's new No. 1 base in the Far East—Japan.

All preparations for evacuation have been made. Wives and families have been sent home, and the forces themselves reduced from 40,000 this August to around 15,000 today. If things go as planned, the only Americans left here will be civilian advisers (whose help in administering the country the South Korean Government is expected to request) plus a largish delegation of economic and financial technicians here to supervise the use of the 150

days of their occupation. As a consequence, Korea's 50,000-strong constabulary, like every other branch of the South Korean Administration, was honeycombed by Communist cells. "I want the Americans to leave us at least a token force here," said the Premier, "say between 5,000 and 10,000 men. That would discourage the Communists and give us time to consolidate."

I confess I rather doubt whether the presence of a small token force of Americans would deter the 200,000-strong North Korean Communist army and its South Korea guerrilla fighters for long.

**THE AMERICANS  
ARE GETTING  
OUT OF KOREA**

I believe they will start their planned attack in the South as soon as the Soviet troops pull out of North Korea, thus freeing the Soviet from international responsibility for North Korean action. On the date scheduled for January 1, the decision over China will even more complicated and difficult. The trouble is that things there are moving much faster than anyone had anticipated. In 50 days the Communists who had up to now refrained from occupying towns have seized six key centres in Manchuria and North and Central China.

I said "If" it is a biggish "if." In fact, there are several. "If" are reflections of similar pros and cons which policy-makers in the West and the U.S. must now be weighing as regards China.

Most important "if" is the American political conscience. And there is an extremely able head to prod it in the person of venerable white-haired Singman Rhee. President of the South Korean Republic, who looks and speaks like a kindly old Red Indian chief.

When I called up on him in the vast Japanese-built capitol, he did not make any bones about it. He holds that the Americans are committed to support South Korea and demands that they leave occupation forces here, regardless of the Soviet evacuation of the North.

"The Americans," he said, "not we Koreans are responsible for the partition of our country. They agreed that the Soviet should occupy Korea north of the 38th parallel. They cannot just abandon us now and leave us to be overrun by the Soviet Union's Northern satellites."

Singman Rhee also said, and the same allegation was later repeated to me by his Premier and Defence Minister, that the Americans had insisted on non-discrimination against the Communists in the early

days of their occupation. As a consequence, Korea's 50,000-strong constabulary, like every other branch of the South Korean Administration, was honeycombed by Communist cells. "I want the Americans to leave us at least a token force here," said the Premier, "say between 5,000 and 10,000 men. That would discourage the Communists and give us time to consolidate."

Now it is entirely on the cards that they will attempt to exploit the present confusion with an attempt to attack and overwhelm the forces of General Fu Tso-yi and link the Communist guerrilla armies in Central China around Tainan and Kailang, with the Communist main armies in North China and Manchuria.

**BREAKDOWN**

If they succeed in doing so then it will be only a few months before they cross the Yangtsekiang and enter the main plain of China.

And that is the view of the experts, would probably be the end of the Chiang Kai-shek regime. Fu Tso-yi is the ablest, toughest, and most successful general on the anti-Communist side. I saw him and his troops when I was in Peking. There was a simple military austerity and discipline about them which impressed me.

The trouble is it is not the military situation which has brought about the present disaster so much as the economic, administrative, and psychological breakdown of the Chiang Kai-shek regime. Fall of Mukden had long been foreseen, and anticipated, and itself is not such a severe blow despite the loss of troops and equipment, and the freeing of Communist armies for an attack on the South.

**G.V.R. THOMPSON REPORTS  
THE AMERICAN SCENE****A WAR FOR  
FOURPENCE**

NEW YORK.  
AMERICAN LABOUR is getting ready to go on the rampage again. Union leaders are preparing for an offensive to win another round of pay rises—their fourth since the war. And if they don't get them, they will strike. Their goal: An extra 44 per cent. Labour's argument is that almost all the gains have been cancelled out by inflation. The Government has backed that argument. A report says that wages have jumped 43 per cent since Japan surrendered, and that the cost of living in the same time has gone up 38 per cent. So this time Labour is asking something different—a rise to be absorbed from employers' profits and not from increased prices.

PRESIDENT TRUMAN's famous back porch made news. His political rivals who tried to stop him adding this to the back of the White House are to have a permanent reminder that President Truman gets his way. The Treasury announces it has re-designed its \$20 note. And the new note, which shows a back view of the mansion, shows the porch.

HAYMAKING becomes an unnecessary job, claimed American agricultural experts, because of a new grass just discovered in Kentucky. Sutter's Grass, as it is called after the farmer who developed it, stays green, highly nutritious, and palatable (to cattle) summer and winter in mild climates.

IN HARRISBURG, Pennsylvania, a smile was worth a dollar the other day. In honour of "Smile Day," an organisation called the Optimists Club handed out dollars to the thousand citizens wearing the brightest smiles.

BUT IN NEWARK, New Jersey, they called the police when Mrs. Helen Weiss began giving away \$100 notes to passers-by because "they probably need the money more than I do." The police locked her up for sanity tests.

IN FROM ENGLAND, Sir Amos Ayre, chairman of the Shipbuilding Conference, told New York's naval architects that British productivity has decreased because "the workers who used to get a man's breakfast of steaks or chops now eat his weekly bacon ration in one meal."

WASHINGTON OFFICIALS have begun working on a plan to set up a "Sandhurst" for airmen.

CHAMPAGNE—California, not French—is now being sold in frozen cubes. Just put a cube in a glass and wait for it to melt.

HAROLD STASSEN, who campaigned two years to become Republican candidate for President and got nowhere, is starting even earlier this time. His backers have announced—just under four years from the next Presidential election—that Stassen is available again.

**Now Moscow Switches  
The Roles**

By GEORGE CAMPEY

IS the party line about to change? Hitherto the sinister figures behind World War Three have been in the eyes of Moscow and the Americans and Mr Churchill.

Now, a new note has crept into the Soviet theme song. The instigators of the new war are the "British imperialists" and the Americans are their catspaws.

Listen to this editorial broadcast from Moscow: "The U.S. expansionists are assigned the role of executioners of these [British imperialist] designs against the interests of the people."

"The British Tories, having outlived their day, are no longer relying on the decrepit British Empire, but are banking on the aggressive U.S. monopolists."

"They hope, by imposing the role of anti-Soviet battering ram on the American claimants to world supremacy, to improve their own shaky position as a result, of a Soviet-U.S. conflict."

But America will benefit from this militant co-operation. "The Wall Street politicians," went on the broadcast, "are exploiting the cold war against USSR as a means of getting their claws into the British colonies."

This statement was notable not only for its divergence from the party line but for its reference to the British Empire.

After that profound revelation, another from the inventive mind of Zvezich the Terrible. Zvezich is the professor who knows all the answers. He has already killed off the British Empire. Now he has been giving his British listeners

(who listens to him?) the low-down on their new health scheme. These are some of the points he made in his broadcast:

1.—The Right Labourites surrendered to the capitalist. Medical Association "without even a fight."

2.—Patent medicines are cheaply made from secret recipes largely in American or by British firms under contract with American monopolies.

3.—Quackery still exists in Britain and "the quacks are united in something like a medieval guild."

4.—Young doctors are being subsidised by the Government to "experiment with the health of the poor."

Iron Curtain-raisers: The Common People are always on the side of the USSR. Dr Hewlett Johnson and Bernard Shaw were given as examples of the common folk.

A broadcast of Finland referred to Lord Halifax as "the present head of the BBC."

Mr John Foster Dulles was reported to have offered the Tories in Britain \$1,500,000 (£275,000) to make propaganda to beat the Socialist Party at the next election.

The history of the Dulles report sounds like Danny Kaye's Lobby song.

It was discovered by a Czech journalist in Paris, who sent it to his paper in Prague, where it was picked up by the Telepress Agency, who transmitted it to Tass, who broadcast it on to Moscow radio, who broadcast it to whoever listens to Moscow radio. And there was no neutral business man mixed up in it.

**NANCY**

He Should've Learned the Piccolo

By Ernie Bushmiller





## H.K. Realty Shares To Be Divided

### THIS MORNING'S MEETINGS

At an Extraordinary General Meeting of Shareholders of the Hongkong Realty and Trust Co., Ltd., held at the offices of Wheelock Marden & Co., Ltd., this morning, a resolution was passed that the present capital of the Company, namely 200,000 shares of HK\$10, be sub-divided into 2,000,000 shares of HK\$1 each.

The Chairman, Mr. G. E. Marden, stated:

Before formally proposing the special Resolutions which this Meeting has been called to consider, I ought to tell you the reasons which have caused you to be asked to consider the proposed sub-division of the capital of the Company. In the first place, all of the printed copies of the Articles except one having been destroyed during the course of the war, we were faced with the necessity of preparing others and it was logical that the Articles should be brought up to date.

In addition certain Articles have been varied and others introduced for the purpose of appointing Messrs. Wheelock Marden & Co., Ltd., as the General Managers and Secretaries. The Chairman of the Company and certain other variations have been made to bring these changes properly into effect.

As you are aware, the shares of the Company are mostly held by Messrs. Wheelock Marden & Co., Ltd., and their associates and as it is intended to make a placement of the shares on the Stock Exchange

and so permit their redistribution, it has been thought desirable to sub-divide into smaller denominations.

#### NEW ARTICLES

The copy of the new Articles which is before you has been available for your inspection since the 10th November, 1948. I now have pleasure in proposing the following Resolution:—That the present Capital of the Company namely 200,000 shares of HK\$10.00 each be and is hereby sub-divided into 2,000,000 shares of HK\$1.00 each.

Mr. Ellis Hayim seconded the Resolution, which was put to the Meeting and carried unanimously. The Chairman then proposed the following Resolution: That the New Articles of Association produced to the Meeting, and for purpose of identification subscribed by George Ernest Marden, Chairman of the Company and the Articles of Association of the Company in substitution for and to the exclusion of all existing Articles of Association of the Company.

This Resolution was seconded by the Hon. P. S. Cassidy, put to the Meeting and carried unanimously. Present at the meeting were: Mr. G. E. Marden (Chairman), Messrs C. Blaker, P. S. Cassidy, D. C. Davis and Ellis Hayim (Directors), Mr. W. G. E. Lannaman (Representing Wheelock Marden & Co., Ltd., Secretaries and Shareholders), J. L. Marden (Representing Yangtze Finance Co., Ltd., Shareholders), Messrs F. J. Hornum-Fisher, J. D. Clegg and J. C. L. Pearce (Shareholders) representing in all a total of 100,340 shares.

#### ANNUAL MEETING

Following the Extraordinary General Meeting, the Annual General Meeting of Shareholders was held, and was attended by the same officials of the Company and shareholders.

The Chairman stated: Since the last Annual General Meeting you have met for the purpose of considering a Resolution to place your company in voluntary liquidation. This was not proceeded with as an offer to purchase the shares was received and accepted in respect of 97% of the shares of the Company.

Until after the close of the year which is now being reviewed, business was mainly confined to the realisation of investments and property but a subsidiary was incorporated as Harriman Realty Co., Ltd., for the purpose of acquiring the goodwill and assets of the Real Estate business carried on by Mr. G. Harriman. This proved a very satisfactory investment and since the close of the year—has continued to be such. Other investments have since been made whilst others are contemplated and it is anticipated that they will prove favourable.

There is nothing to remark upon in the Profit and Loss Account, most of the transactions which it reflects having taken place in the early part of the year.

#### POSTWAR OVERDRAFT

On the assets side of the Balance Sheet you will see that investments other than that in the subsidiary company, whilst small, are in at cost, whilst the amount due from the subsidiary represents the cost of acquisition and incorporation of the business.

The amount at Sundry Debtors has since been received whilst you will observe the large amount of cash and the provision for repayment of the postwar overdraft which today's legislation will doubtless result in clearing.

On the other side there is the large balance at Profit and Loss Appropriation Account which it is not intended at this time to distribute, whilst sundry creditors and provisions are estimated fully to cover all known liabilities and contingencies other than profits tax, if applicable.

I now have pleasure in proposing:—That the Report and Accounts in respect of the year ended 30th April, 1949, be adopted as presented and when this has been duly seconded, I shall answer to the best of my ability, any questions which shareholders may wish to put.

This resolution, having been seconded by Mr. D. C. Davis, and there being no questions, was put to the Meeting and carried unanimously.

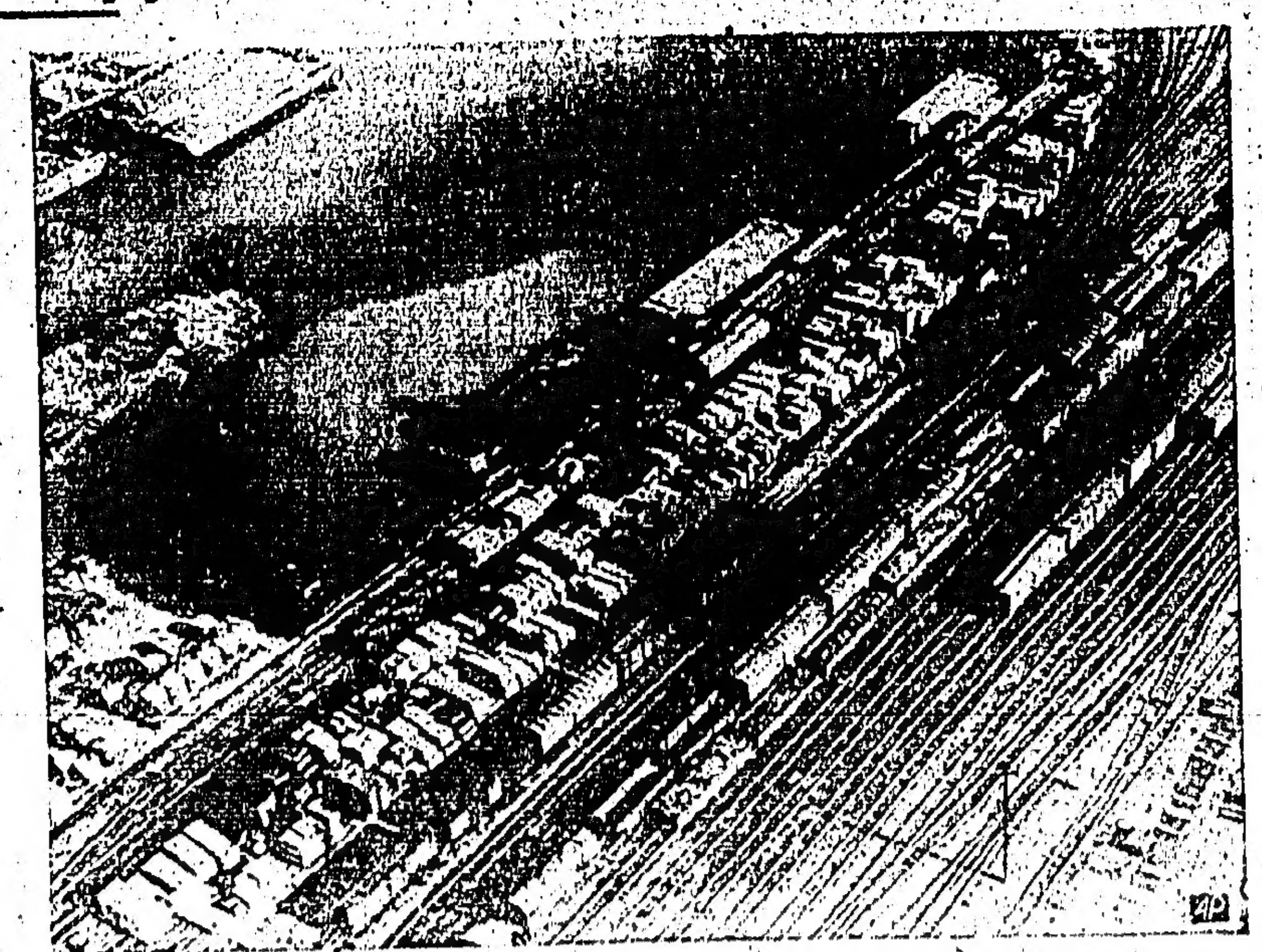
The following resolutions were also put to the meeting and carried unanimously:

That the appointments of Messrs G. E. Marden, C. Blaker, Ellis Hayim and the Hon. P. S. Cassidy as Directors, be approved as proposed by Mr. D. C. Davis, seconded by Mr. F. J. Hornum-Fisher and passed.

Messrs G. E. Marden and Ellis Hayim who retire in accordance with the Articles, re-elected by the Company on the proposition of Hon. P. S. Cassidy seconded by Mr. J. D. Clegg.

Messrs Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co., were re-appointed Auditors of the Company at a remuneration to be agreed upon by the Directors. This was proposed by Mr. W. G. E. Lannaman and seconded by Mr. J. C. L. Pearce.

## Supplies Pile Up At Waterfront



## S'hai Commander Condemns Panic

### MAKES AN APPEAL FOR PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

(Continued from Page 1)

Shanghai, Dec. 1.—The Commander of the Shanghai-Nanking area, General Tang En-po, tonight lashed out at the widespread panic among various classes of people who have started to leave Shanghai and Nanking to places of safety.

Speaking at a reception, General Tang appealed for public confidence in the Government's ability to defend these vital centres. He said that only through the public's co-operation could the Government stem the surging tide of the Communists.

General Tang declared that China's Communism is not a domestic but a world problem. What is happening to China today, he pointed out, is due to "the legacy of nine years of global war."

At the same reception, General Chen Ta-chun, commander of the Shanghai Garrison, appealed for a reawakening of the spirit which held out successfully against the Japanese invasions of 1937 and 1938.

Mr. Cheng Chung-po, a State Councillor and president of the Shinnanpo, an influential Chinese daily, urged immediate action against foreign and Chinese newspapers which, in the past week, have published sensational reports which had aggravated the panic.

He cited ungrounded though widespread newspaper reports that the Government had planned the evacuation of Nanking.

General Tang En-po defended the newspapers, which have published this news recently, on grounds that lack of co-operation between Government information agencies and the newspapers was to blame.—Reuter.

#### ADVANCE ON CHAHAR

Tientsin, Dec. 2.—Kalgan came into the North China military picture last night with reports that General Nieh Yung-cheng's Communist forces in West Chahar were advancing towards Chahar, the capital, 180 kilometres from Peking, along the Peking-Suiyuan railway.

Fighting was proceeding about 25 kilometres west of Kalgan. The reports said the invaders consisted of Mongol Red cavalry.—Reuter.

#### EVACUATION SHIPS

Geneva, Dec. 1.—The International Refugee Organisation today assigned three more ships—making five altogether—to evacuate European refugees threatened by the spreading civil war in China.

They are the 3,728-ton Swedish ship, San Francisco, the 5,042-ton Norwegian Swabland, and the 7,300-ton Panamanian Protea.

They will go to China in January or February to evacuate the remaining 3,135 refugees who have immigration visas for resettlement.

If the war in China demands emergency action, all the 13,000 European refugees will be evacuated by a shuttle service, possibly to Japan or Australia.

The two other ships, the 7,003-ton Italian Castel Blanco and the 7,007-ton Argentine Wooster Victory have already left Australia. They will reach a Chinese port early in December and embark 1,700 refugees, mainly Jewish, for a Mediterranean port.—Reuter.

#### Drove Unlicensed Tricycles

Four men arrested in Wanchai and West Point yesterday for driving tricycles without a licence, were this morning fined \$20 each by Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central. The employer of one of them was fined \$40 for allowing his tricycle to be driven by an unlicensed driver and for keeping an unlicensed tricycle in Fleming Road.

## COMMUNIST DEFENDED IN COMMONS

London, Dec. 1.—The Speaker of the House of Commons, Colonel Douglas Clifton Brown, today defended a Communist member of Parliament Mr. Philip Piratin, against a charge of encouraging "Communist murderers" in Malaya.

Such a charge, he said, should not be made against a member of Parliament.

Mr. Piratin had asked how many houses were destroyed and how many people left homeless in the burning of a village in North Malaya by British troops on November 2.

The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Creoch Jones, said he had asked for a report.

Major Tuffon Beamish, Conservative, then commented that if these actions were taken they were to combat the activities of "Communist murderers" who are given active encouragement by Mr. Piratin.

Another Communist member, William Gallacher, protested and the Speaker intervened in favour of Piratin.—Reuter.

## 17 Year-Old's Fourth Crime

"Quite a record for a 17-year-old," Your Worship, said Inspector Moran at Central this morning when he prosecuted in the case against Chan Pk-nam, 17, unemployed, charged with larceny from the person and breach of a deportation order before Mr. d'Almeida.

The complainant, Miss Elizabeth D'Arcy, of 2 Peak Mansions, was sitting in her car, which was held up by a traffic light at Des Voeux Road Central outside Gloucester Building. Defendant put his hand through the window of the car and snatched a handbag containing \$10 and some cosmetics, from complainant's lap. He then ran towards Chater Road. The driver of the car gave chase and arrested defendant.

Defendant, who had three previous convictions for larceny from the person, said he returned to Hongkong to get his clothes. As he had no money to go back, he snatched the handbag. He now wished to return to Canton.

"You will," said Mr. d'Almeida, when he sentenced him to three and six months consecutively, on the respective charges.

## Soviet Purchases Of Rubber

London, Dec. 1.—The Colonial Secretary, Mr. Arthur Creech Jones, told the House of Commons today that rubber bought by Russia in or from Malaya in 1947 amounted to 37,024 tons.

During the first nine months of this year these exports to Russia were 60,406 tons.

Mr. Guy Lloyd, Conservative, suggested that it was "madness to allow this very large quantity to go to Russia at present."

Mr. Creech Jones said that it was not a very large quantity, and it was in accordance with trade arrangements with the Soviets.—Reuter.

This airview of the waterfront and railroad yards at Jersey City, N.J., shows pileup of export-bound supplies which, now that the strike of AFL longshoremen has been settled, will be able to be despatched to their destinations. (AP Wirephoto).

## UN Charter Lays Down Equal Rights

Paris, Dec. 1.—The United Nations Social Committee today adopted a new Charter of Human Freedoms, which declares that all persons are equal, irrespective of race, colour, sex, language, religion or politics.

It holds that no man should be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile, nor subjected to torture, inhuman treatment or punishment.

Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the border of each state and the right to seek and to enjoy in other countries, asylum from persecution.

The declaration lays down that men and women of full age have the right to marry without limitations of race, nationality or religion. It emphasises the rights of free speech, peaceful assembly, religious freedom and the right of free elections. It maintains that the will of the people expressed in periodic and genuine elections is the basis of authority.

On social security, it stresses that everyone has the right to work, with equal pay for equal work, to free choice of employment under just and favourable conditions, and to protection against unemployment.—Reuter.

#### BAN ON GENOCIDE

Paris, Dec. 1.—The United Nations Legal Committee today passed the first World Convention against genocide (organised murder of social groups), by 30 votes against zero.

Britain, South Africa and the Soviet Union abstained from voting. The Convention will now go before the plenary session of the Assembly, and if passed will be sent to member States for ratification.—Reuter.

## Evacuees Arrive From Tsingtao

Twelve Britons—men, women and three children—arrived in Hongkong this morning from Tsingtao by the USS Pollux which had been placed at the disposal of the evacuees by the United States naval authorities.

## MARCH TO MEET COMMUNISTS

(Continued from Page 1)

These forces were reported to have withdrawn closer to Peking to meet the reported Communist threat in the area 30 to 80 miles east of Peking.

Semi-official dispatches described the Reds attacking Tangshan as being composed of several columns of veteran Manchurian campaigners under General Lin Piao who have landed on the east coast across the Bay of Chihli.

There was no confirmation of the rumours that Lin Piao is moving the Reds into northeast and eastern Shantung by sea routes.

General Fu's Peking headquarters confirmed that the Nationalists are again in possession of Peotow in Suiyuan province.

Central News claimed a Nationalist success in Kalgan, where 5,000 Reds were reported as killed. Three columns of Communists were said by Central News to be in retreat with the government troops in pursuit.—United Press.

## QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

TO-DAY ONLY AT 2.30, 5.15, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.



Frederic MARCH • Veronica LAKE  
RELEASED THROUGH UNITED ARTISTS

## OPENING TO-MORROW

QUEEN'S ALHAMBRA

"A FOREIGN AFFAIR" ONE OF THE TEN BEST! "A GUY NAMED JOE"

Marlene DIETRICH • John LUND

OPENS TO-MORROW Queens OPENS TO-MORROW



JEAN ARTHUR MARLENE DIETRICH JOHN LUND

"A Foreign AFFAIR"

SHOWING TO-DAY MAJESTIC AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

ALL HE WANTED WAS LOVE!

Wanted for MURDER

ERIC PORTMAN

Directed by Lawrence Huntington Produced by Marcel Hellman An Excelsior Film Production Released by 20th Century-Fox

Betty GRABLE • Dick HAYMES in

"THE SHOCKING MISS PILGRIM" COLOR BY TECHNICOLOR

## Britain Agrees To Back European Parliament Scheme

Paris, Dec. 1.—Britain has agreed to support the French plan for a European Parliament, it was learned today in quarters in close touch with the Western European Unity Committee.

British support for the French proposal is a real step forward in reconciling British and French views on practical steps to be taken towards a political and economic union of Europe.

Britain's support was made conditional on the French and Benelux countries agreeing to support the British proposal for a "Consultative European Council of Ministers." This condition was accepted.

This "marriage" of British and French ideas was urged by the International Committee for European Federation, in which Mr. Winston Churchill has played a prominent part.

A sub-committee of the European Unity Committee will start tomorrow to work out the practical details.

The work of the committee is expected to occupy about three weeks. It has to elaborate the exact powers it is proposed to give

the European "Cabinet" and the European Parliament, its finances and its terms of reference.—Reuter.

#### ITALY APPROACHED?

Rome, Dec. 1.—The British ambassador in Rome, Sir Victor Mallet, saw the Italian Foreign Minister, Count Carlo Sforza, today and was understood to have discussed with him the plan for a European Consultative Council.

Foreign Ministry circles said after the meeting that it seemed likely that Italy would be invited to co-operate in the European Union.

Count Sforza also heard a report from Professor Alberto Tarchini, the Italian Ambassador to the United States, on his recent talks with President Truman on the Italian colonies.

Later, the Count said: "I continued to hope the 'improvised' and complete Anglo-American agreement regarding the future of our colonies may give way in favour of the Italian thesis."—Reuter.

## Churchill Warns Of Red Spies

London, Dec. 1.—Mr. Winston Churchill told the House of Commons today that a highly-organised fifth column was active in all parts of Great Britain—"in our factories, in our trade unions and in our camps."

"It is inconceivable that the Soviet Government have not got a very accurate measure of British resources," the wartime Prime Minister told the House.

Mr. Churchill took the lead in Conservative attacks on the Labour Government during a discussion of the term of military service.

The Defence Minister, Mr. A. V. Alexander, proposed the second reading of the National Service Bill extending the term of conscription from one year to 18 months.

Referring to a request for a closed session of the Commons to discuss British military strength, Mr. Churchill said: "We are told by the Government that it is suggested there would be leaks. The only people who are not informed are the British nation and the House of Commons. I say we have a right to know as much as the Kremlin knows on this point."—United Press.

## Sailor Steals A Watch

Marine Robert Bloomfield, 22, of HMS London was charged before Mr. Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning with stealing a watch from the basement of 42, Spring Garden Lane on Monday night.

According to Inspector Brownrigg, Bloomfield and another marine went to the premises saying they were Military Police who wished to search the house for morphine.

After they left, Chan Chung discovered his wrist watch, valued at \$10, missing from the top of his wardrobe. He chased the two marines and raised the alarm.

Bloomfield was intercepted by L/Cpl Munn of the Military Police and Detective Li Hung. The watch was found in his waistband.

Pleading for leniency, Bloomfield told the Magistrate that he was from Kent and was due to leave his Services next year. He said he was under influence of drink at the time of the offence.

Bloomfield's Commanding Officer said the accused had been in the Services for six years and had had a very good record.

The Magistrate imposed a fine of \$150 or two months.

## Marshal Petain Weakens

Paris, Dec. 1.—Marshal Philippe Petain, now on the Isle d'Yeu serving a life sentence for being responsible for the Vichy Government's collaboration with Germany, had weakened considerably, it was stated in Paris on Wednesday.

The announcement was made by the Minister of Information, M. Francois Mitterand.

There were rumours in Paris on Wednesday that the French Cabinet at Rheims might have decided to remove the Marshal from the island which is off the Bay of Biscay and take him to Mlencuve Lodhat in the South of France, where he originally had a house.

But according to M. Mitterand, nothing had yet been decided about such a move.—Associated Press.

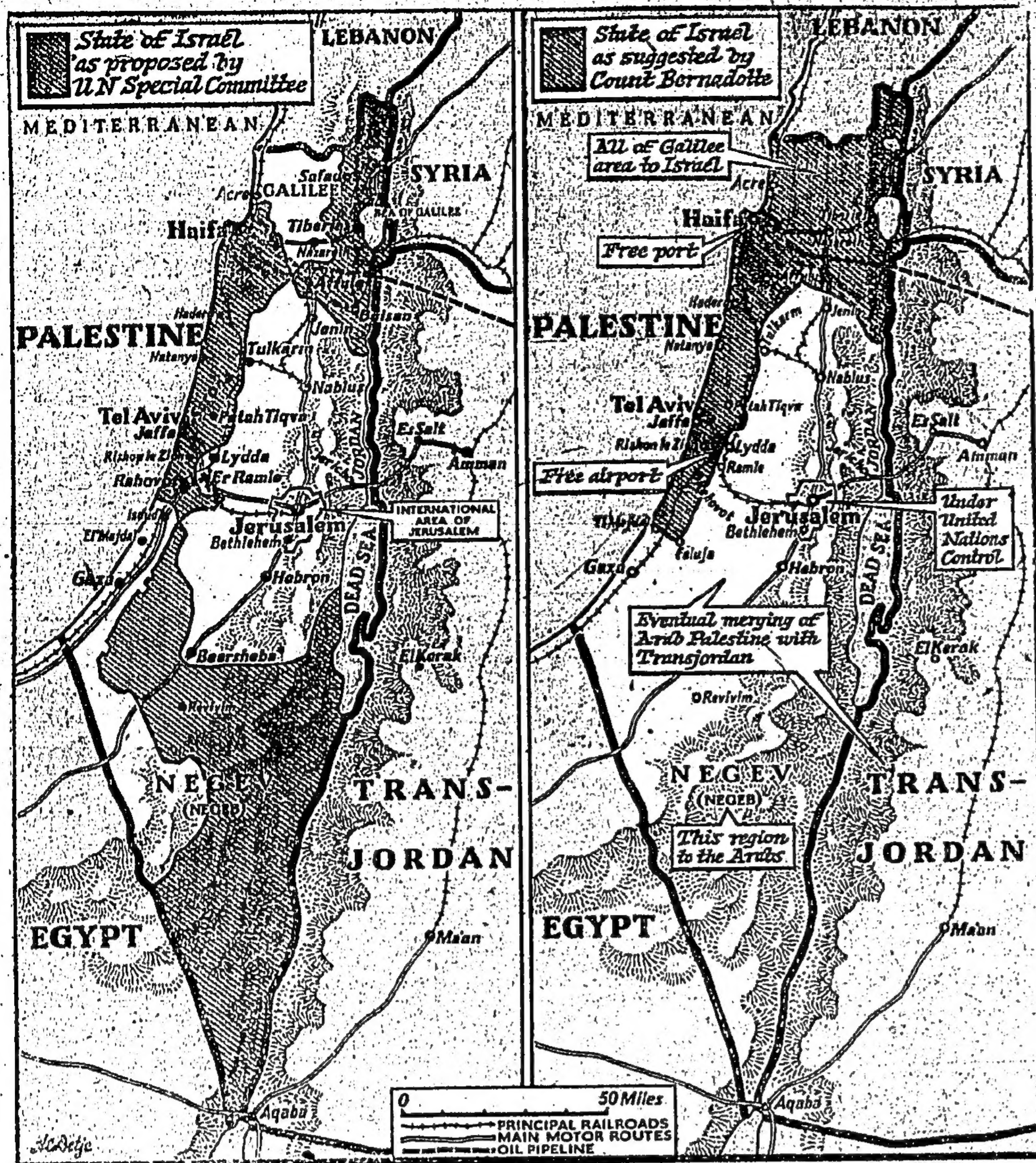












## Jap Anti-Strike Bill Designed To Control Reds' Machinations

Tokyo, Dec. 1.—Gen Douglas MacArthur's statement today on the passage of the new Japanese public service legislation was interpreted by observers as a warning that the Supreme Commander will oppose efforts of the Communist minority to seize control of Japan's government.

The new legislation governing public employees will severely handicap Japanese Communists' efforts to make their influence felt through Red-dominated workers groups. The new legislation, which was originally suggested by Gen MacArthur himself, prohibits more than 2,000,000 government workers from striking.

## ERP BRINGS NEW HOPES FOR PEACE

New York, Dec. 1.—Mr Paul Hoffman, Chief of the Economic Co-operation Administration (ECA), said in New York on Wednesday that ERP has brought a new spirit of co-operation in Western Europe that is "our best hope of peace."

Mr Hoffman, who goes to London next Saturday on the start of a world ECA inspection, was addressing a meeting of the National Association of Manufacturers.

"ECA already has resulted in a substantial increase in Europe's productivity. But an even more important result is a real start toward breaking down the barriers that divide Europe into separate uncooperative segments."

### SOLID ACHIEVEMENTS

He listed as "solid achievements" the intra-European currency clearance programme to expedite credits effective on November 1, the economic merging of the Benelux countries negotiations between Italy and France on a new Customs Union, and Britain's offer of more than \$300,000,000 in credits to European nations.

"These steps are only the beginning," Mr Hoffman said. "We expect that further efforts to break down national barriers to increased trade in Europe will multiply in scope and effectiveness. We intend to encourage them with all the force and pressure we can muster."

Mr Hoffman said agreements between the United States and ERP countries "do not give us the right to dictate to nations as to their form of economic organization."

"As long as they remain free nations with a free ballot, the kind of economic organization under which they operate is their business," Associated Press.

It was expected that Gen MacArthur's statement would be hailed in many American quarters.

The Supreme Commander made it clear that he was opposed to letting Japan's new representative government fall a "prey to minority subjugation."

The statement was welcomed by many persons in both Allied and Japanese circles here who feel that Japan's position as a barrier against the spread of Communism in the Far East is becoming increasingly important.

### THE FIRST STEP?

Some Allied quarters expressed the belief that this legislation is just the first step in a long co-ordinated programme to insure Japan's role as a democratic outpost in the event China is completely overrun by Communist armies.

Gen. MacArthur referred to the legislation just passed by the Diet (Japanese Parliament) as a "decisive advance by the Japanese people in their search for a stable and responsible government."

It is expected that this and other sections of Gen MacArthur's statement will be closely studied by American officials in Washington who are now reviewing America's position in the Far East.

It also will be scrutinized by Americans who are interested in making investments here and who are in the process of deciding whether or not Japan is a good risk.

United Press.

## Russians Discover A New Comet

Moscow, Dec. 1.—A new comet, described as the brightest seen for 10 years, has been under observation for several days by astronomers at Sallabard, in the far south of the USSR.

The comet is easily visible to the naked eye due to its brilliance and the length of its tail—18 degrees. It can be seen at dawn in the constellation of Hydra, near the sun.

Reuter.

**PALESTINE PROBLEM:** These two maps illustrate the problem now confronting the United Nations of dividing Palestine between the Arabs and the Jews. The Bernadotte plan (right) was originally supported by Britain who has since agreed to the American solution (left), whereby the Jews receive a large section of the Negev, but less territory in the north.

## CHURCHILL SUPPORTS THE GOVT!

London, Dec. 1.—Mr Winston Churchill, leader of the Parliamentary Opposition, in the House of Commons tonight supported a Government bill to increase compulsory service in the armed forces from 12 to 18 months but accused the Government of "squandering the country's resources."

Disagreeing with the Defence Minister, Mr A. V. Alexander, that the extension was necessitated by the deteriorating international situation, Mr Churchill said the "darkening foreign situation" had not changed since the Government decided on a 12-month period 18 months ago.

Labour Members had opposed the Cabinet's original proposal of 18 months.

The whole story constituted not only an "error of judgment, but a lapse from public duty under party pressure," he said.

### THE UNCERTAIN QUESTION

"We have lived under the protection of the atomic bomb since the early days of this Parliament," he said. "The uncertain question had been: what are the intentions of the group of oligarchs in control of the Kremlin?"

Mr Alexander said events in Malaya and the Far East had shown there was a possibility of at least a danger of new commitments. If the 12 months' period was adhered to, January 1, 1950, the Army would have about 195,000 regulars and 100,000 to 110,000 conscripts.

Under the new 18 months' scheme, the not numbers available for national service would be 105,000 in 1949, 200,000 in 1950, and 215,000 in 1951.

Mr Ellis Smith moved an amendment signed by three Labour Members for the rejection of the Bill.

Reuter.

### CABINET RESIGNS

Damascus, Dec. 1.—The Syrian Cabinet headed by Jamil Mardam Bey resigned today. The Syrian Parliament adjourned tonight after the resignation of the Cabinet.

The Syrian President, Shukri Bey El Khatib, asked the Deputies to forget their differences and form a Government of "National Unity."

Reuter.

## Probe Into Wholesale Divorces

### FALSE TESTIMONY ABOUT ADULTERY

New York, Dec. 1.—The records for all divorces granted in New York County were ordered to be turned over to the District Attorney for scrutiny today as the investigation of wholesale divorces snowballed.

The State Supreme Court Justice, Irving Levy handed down the order at the request of the District Attorney, Frank S. Hogan. Mr Hogan said he planned to investigate particularly uncontested divorces granted here over the past two years and warned that some may be declared invalid.

As the investigation spread, legal sources frankly admitted that false testimony about "adultery" which had never been committed was a recourse, under the State's rigid divorce laws, of couples of limited means who desired a divorce. New York, which has the stiffest divorce laws of any State in the nation, recognizes adultery as the only grounds for divorce.

### LAWYERS EVADED

Widespread evasions of State divorce laws were brought to Mr Hogan's attention when the 20-year-old mother of three came to him because she was dissatisfied with her pay for acting the role of "the other woman" in fake adultery raids.

After a month-long inquiry, the District Attorney's office arrested the girl, Mrs. Sam Ellis, and five men involved in the case: Max Zuckerman, 53, private detective, who admitted arranging hundreds of divorces for fees as low as \$250 in the past four years by staging fake raids or providing false testimony of adultery; atorneys Barnett Muffs, 48, and Luther Georges, 61; Samuel Schneiderman, 57, waterfront watchman, who acted as a professional witness; and Harold Ulanoff, 50, law clerk.

United Press.

### Shanghai Blockade

Shanghai, Dec. 2.—The entire downtown area of Shanghai was blockaded last night by heavily armed Chinese military and plain-clothes police for some five hours during which a number of coolies were observed moving heavy boxes from the Central Bank to a cable ship tied up to a jolly opposite the Bank.

Newspapermen wearing curfew armbands were not allowed through the blockade and for the entire period the Chinese Cable Office, situated in the heart of the area, was completely isolated.

Reuter.

## THE FOG BLANKET BEGINS TO LIFT

London, Dec. 1.—The fog blanket was lifting from North-West Europe today. The Berlin airlift was resumed, ships began to move in the Scheldt Estuary, and most airlines were running to time table.

With a low hanging fog still covering most of Western Germany this morning, the airlift was restarted on a limited scale. Later, Berlin saw sunshine for the first time in six days.

The Potsdam Meteorological Office predicted the whole of Germany would be free from fog by tomorrow.

Fog caused 32 traffic accidents during the last 24 hours in Frankfurt, which also had its first snow of the winter.

Air traffic at Orly and Le Bourget Airports, near Paris, was normal today. The National Weather Office again predicted fog over the Paris region. Temperatures were several degrees below freezing point.

Six hundred passengers stranded in Paris for 12 days waiting for the Queen Elizabeth left this afternoon for Cherbourg. The liner left Southampton in bright sunshine today.

**BRIGHT SUNSHINE**  
In Holland, bright sunshine rapidly dispersed the ground mist in low-lying places. Except for planes to Britain, air traffic was normal at Schiphol Airport.

Airline departures from Brussels were resumed after a few early morning cancellations.

Fog is expected to return in Belgium tonight but less severely than in the past few days. Shipping from Antwerp, delayed by fog in the Scheldt, was back to normal with only a slight haze.

In London, the sun broke through this afternoon after the thickest night and morning of the five-days' fog. Shipping began to move in the Thames Estuary and docks. The Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mary and the Aquitania left their berths in bright sunshine after holdups by strikes and fog, estimated to have cost the Cunard White Star Line well over £400,000.

Forecasts indicated a general improvement after the longest period

of consistent fog recorded since regular observations began.—Reuter.

### NOTICE

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FRIDAY, 3rd DECEMBER, 1948

JACOBAN ROOM, HONG KONG HOTEL

5.30 P.M.

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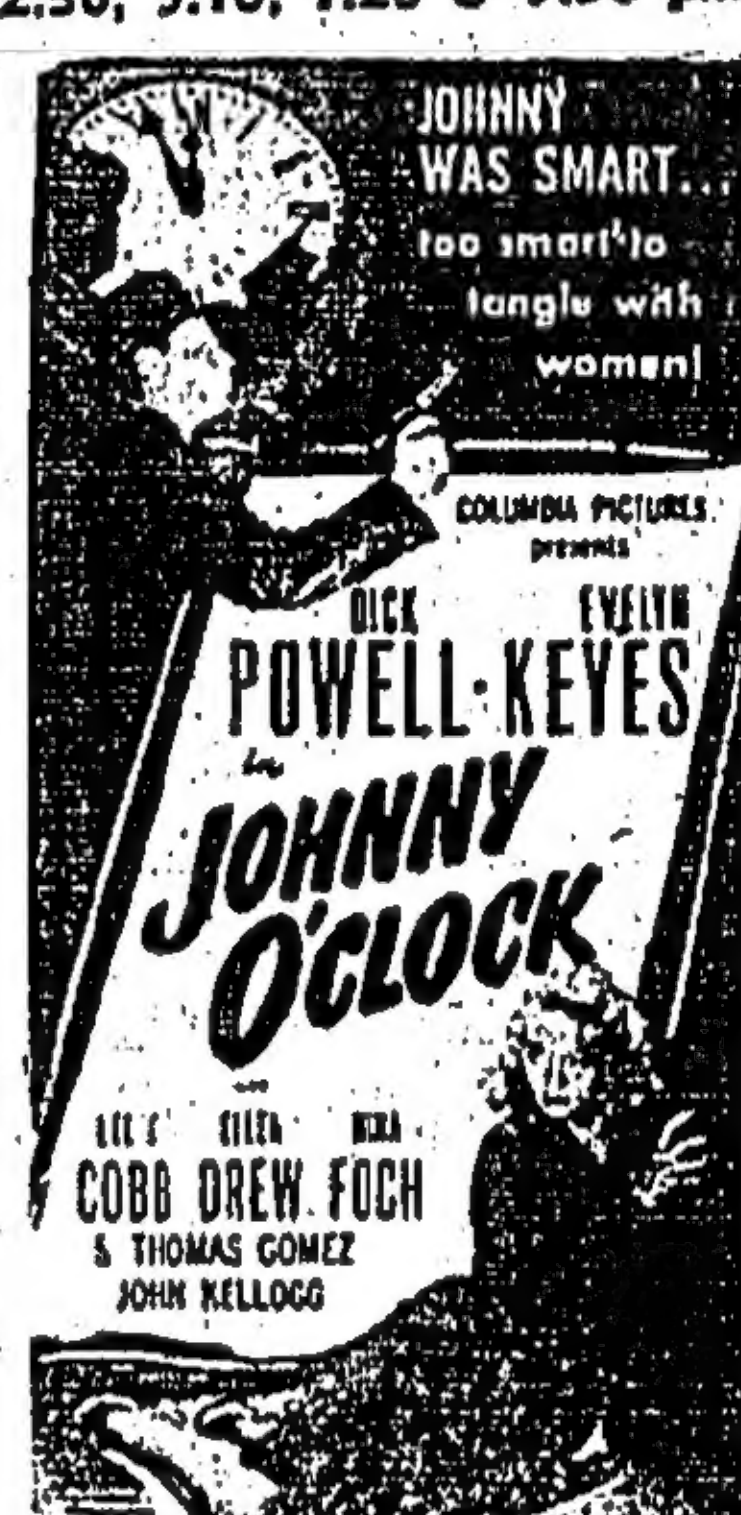
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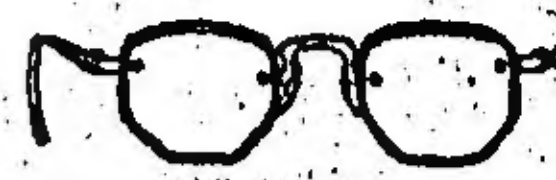
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